



**Town of Arlington, Massachusetts**  
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## **Historical Commission Minutes 09-02-2003**

**Arlington Historical Commission  
Minutes of the Meeting of Tuesday,  
2 September 2003  
Whittemore-Robbins House, 7:30 PM**

Call to Order: Robert Botterio presiding, with commissioners Pamela Meister, JoAnn Robinson, Eric Stange, Patrick Guthrie, Jane Becker, and Michael Ruderman; also, associate Richard A. Duffy, and Patsy Kraemer.

Review of Minutes of 5 August 2003. Ms. Kraemer arranged for the latest repairs to the Whittemore-Robbins House-with that correction, minutes approved.

### **Communications Received:**

Ms. Kraemer discussed repairs to the chimney within the caretaker's cottage of the Whittemore-Robbins House. She also laid out her plans for a group of "stewards" to assist the public works employees in maintaining the Town Hall and Robbins Library gardens. She envisions them planning projects in line with the historic design, and carrying out the hand maintenance of pruning, weeding, planting and mulching. The municipal crews would continue to apply their expertise and equipment to irrigation and aeration, tree cutting and leaf clean-up. Ms. Kraemer is also pursuing grant funding from the National Garden Club, Inc.'s "Historic Gardens Project."

The term of commissioners Meister and Guthrie are both up for renewal, and both expressed their desire to continue their service.

Mr. Duffy responded to a letter referred to him by Mr. Botterio asking for information about the past commercial uses of 23-35 Massachusetts Avenue.

Mr. Botterio expects a long slate of hearings for the next meeting, including 122 Appleton Street, as requested by its prospective purchaser, Mr. Duffy.

### **Related Activities of other Town Boards (Historic Districts, Preservation Fund, Dallin Museum, others).**

The Historic Districts Commission (HDC) currently oversees 28 individual projects. Mr. Duffy reminded us that, according to the town by-laws creating them, this commission and the HDC are obliged to hold a joint meeting once each year. We will consider arranging the same for December, depending upon our respective schedules of hearings.

Ms. Becker and Mr. Duffy updated the commission on the efforts to organize volunteers and secure funding for the necessary work to expand the Jason-Grey Historic District to include the Massachusetts Avenue end of Academy Street.

### **Projects proceeding under Hearings and Approvals:**

1167 Mass. Ave. (Mirak) 9/00: Botterio  
23 Maple Street (Town of Arlington) 11/00: Robinson  
3-5 Brattle Street (Fertman) 4/02: Stange  
22 Brantwood Road (Blass) 1/03: Stange  
30-32 Addison Street (Pitts) 3/03: Ruderman-done, and leaving the agenda.  
29 Academy Street (Benn/Becker) 5/03: Robinson  
20 Colonial Drive (Manton,) 6/03 siding permit disallowed.  
Robbins Library (Town of Arlington) 6/03: Robinson

**Continuing Projects**

Whittemore-Robbins House (and outbuildings): Botterio-see above.

Arlington Civic Block Garden: Robinson-see above.

Inventory Expansion and Review, and (see below)

Education/Outreach, Website, Publication of Inventory Forms: Mr. Stange is designing the web pages, and Mr. Duffy will send "introduction" letters to the listed owners of newly-inventoried properties (with copies to Mr. Kevin O'Brien, Director of Public Works).

Old Schwamb Mill: Ruderman-no activity.

Symmes Hospital redevelopment-no activity.

**New Business**

Town Day (September 13, 2003) coverage and plans were arranged, in conjunction with the Historical Society and members of the Historic Districts Commission (HDC). Mr. Duffy reminded us that, according to the town by-laws creating them, this commission and the HDC shall hold a joint meeting every year.

Next meeting confirmed for October 7, and this meeting closed at 9:40 PM.

For the Arlington Historical Commission,

A. Michael Ruderman, Commissioner